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PATENT APPLICATION

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 2673**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

ABJ
In re the Application of

*Butler
10/30/04*

Yasuo YAMAMOTO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2673

Application No.: 09/963,546

Examiner: N. Patel

Filed: September 27, 2001

Docket No.: 110704

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Sir:

In reply to the June 17, 2004 Office Action, reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Patel during the telephone interview held July 26, 2004, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

I. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-4 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,113,810 (hereinafter Hou). This rejection is respectfully traversed.